

AMERICA'S MOST EMPHATIC NOTE IS SENT TO AUSTRIA-HUNGARY ON ANCONA

ANCONA TRAGEDY IS DENOUNCED IN HARSH TERMS BY UNITED STATES

Disavowal of Act, Punishment of Commander of Submarine and Indemnity Are Demanded.

RELATIONS OF NATIONS ARE GRAVELY STRAINED

Terms "Inhuman," "Barbarous" and "Wanton Slaughter" Are Employed Freely by Secretary Lansing.

Washington, Dec. 12.—The text of the American note to Austria-Hungary regarding the sinking of the Italian steamship Ancona, made public tonight, reveals a formal demand by the United States for prompt disavowal of the "illegal and indefensible" act, for punishment of the submarine commander, and for indemnity for the killing and injuring of innocent American citizens.

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THE WEATHER

WEATHER FORECAST. Denver, Dec. 12.—New Mexico: Monday and Tuesday, fair; not much change in temperature.

Believe that the commander of the submarine committed this outrage without authority and contrary to the general and specific instructions he had received.

Demands Are Specific.

"As the good relations between the countries must rest upon a common regard for law and humanity, the government of the United States cannot be expected to do otherwise than to demand that the imperial and royal government denounce the sinking of the Ancona as an illegal and indefensible act; that the officer who perpetrated the deed be punished and that reparation be made for the citizens of the United States who were killed or injured by the attack on the vessel."

The Government of the United States expects that the Austria-Hungarian government appreciating the gravity of the case, will accede to its demand promptly and that it will also express its regret for the sinking of the Ancona and its promise to make prompt reparation for the citizens of the United States who were killed or injured by the attack on the vessel.

Washington Interest.

Consideration of the text of the note overshadowed all else in official and diplomatic circles in Washington today. Everywhere information was being obtained by the communication, and what effect it might have upon public opinion in Austria-Hungary.

The course the United States will pursue is understood to have been decided upon. The issue is clearly defined. A reasonable time will be given Austria-Hungary in which to reply to the communication before further action is taken.

Although in some quarters it was thought that the American government might reply that the commander of the submarine was acting in violation of his instructions, it was pointed out that the official statement of the Austria-Hungarian admiralty in regard to the sinking of the Ancona apparently attempted to justify the actions of the submarine by stating that the vessel was approaching when the Austrian war vessel submerged and torpedoed the Ancona.

Relations Already Strained.

Relations between the two countries which have been brought to the attention of the state department in connection with the investigation of the Ancona disaster and diplomatic officials. These cases involving Alexander von Soller, consul general at New York, Baron Eder, consul general at Buenos Aires, and other officials still were under consideration.

It was said tonight that it is probable that the note might not be reached until some indication was received of the position of the Austria-Hungarian government in regard to the Ancona disaster.

Austria Unable to Locate Submarine.

Vienna, Dec. 11 (via London, Dec. 12).—The reason for Austria's delay in replying to the American government's inquiry for details in the Ancona case, the Associated Press correspondent learned from a well-informed source, is that it has been impossible thus far to get into communication with the submarine involved, although every effort has been made to do so.

Ambassador Benfield submitted the Austrian communication on November 18 and was given assurances the desired information would be obtained as soon as possible. A few days later it had not yet been possible to find the submarine and nothing is known of its whereabouts up to now.

ACCUSED SLAYER SAID TO BE A BANK ROBBER

Pueblo, Colo., Dec. 12.—Charged with the murder of William F. Fallon, detective for the Santa Fe railroad, in Pueblo, Friday afternoon, Charles Lewis and Frank Williams are under arrest in the county jail.

NO QUARTER TO VILLA SOLDIERS CAPTURED BY GENERAL CALLES

Wholesale Executions Follow Bloody Battle of Fronteras, Where Rodriguez Was Badly Defeated.

MASSACRE CAUSED BY OUTRAGES COMMITTED

Forces Under Convention Commander Are Said to Have Looted Houses, Murdered People and Violated Women

Douglas, Ariz., Dec. 12.—No quarter was granted Villa soldiers in the battle which started Thursday morning at Fronteras, continued northward to San Joaquin, and then east through a mountain pass leading to the Santa Rosa road into Chihuahua, according to Americans who arrived here today from the scene.

All Villa soldiers taken prisoners were shot on orders by General P. Elias Calles and Angel Flores, governors of Sonora and Sinaloa, respectively, according to the same informants, who declared that the wholesale executions were ordered as a means of punishing the Villa troops for looting and other misdeeds.

It is said that among the Villa soldiers captured were found some who possessed complete lists of residents of the town and the property they owned, even to the last item of clothing, who were brutally strangled to their neighbors.

According to the report brought here by the Americans, every house in Fronteras was sacked and women and girls violated.

The mountain pass east of San Joaquin, leading to the Santa Rosa road, the district's outlet to Chihuahua, was described by the Americans who viewed the place on the day of the battle as a slaughterhouse, with Villa dead piled about the roadways.

VILLA TO LAUNCH NEW CAMPAIGN FROM CHIHUAHUA

El Paso, Tex., Dec. 12.—Reorganization of the Villa forces and the development of a campaign against Carranza forces in Chihuahua, Durango and Zacatecas will begin at Chihuahua City this week, according to authoritative Villa sources today.

The campaign will be directed against the Carranza forces in Chihuahua and Juarez, the former in Chihuahua and the latter in the large cities of Durango, Toluca and Zacatecas, it is said. It is expected a cotton crop valued at many millions of dollars now waiting shipment in the Laguna district near Torreon, would be confiscated and used to sustain the Villa government.

Villa officials at Juarez say the Carranza garrisons at Torreon, Zacatecas and Durango are under fire, and having contributed heavily to the Carranza mobilization in Sonora. It is expected the Carranza troops cannot return and much southern Chihuahua before Villa overthrows the Carranza government.

General Villa, it was stated, plans to hold Juarez, across the border here, with a strong cavalry as a base for supplies for his southern campaign and a depot for the distribution of cotton taken from the Laguna district, should Torreon be taken.

General Fidel Avila, governor of Chihuahua, was summoned yesterday to Chihuahua City by General Villa, who is reported to have ordered a body of troops in the coming southern campaign, according to Villa sources. It was said General Villa was displeased by the removal of the state government under Avila's orders from the capital to Juarez, which is believed to have caused the evacuation of Santa Barbara, Parral, Jimenez and Santa Rosalia and their occupation by Carranza's forces.

Reports of Carranza forces here are investigating reports of an alleged battle of Felix Diaz here. It has been known for some time that Carranza forces of Diaz have been gathering in El Paso.

These reports point that Diaz is now in the state of Coahuila, in southern Mexico, propagating a new revolutionary movement and that he reached there by crossing southern Mexico from Cuba, where he was last located by the Carranza government. It is said, however, that the revolutionaries are of Carranza who some time ago declared that state independent of Villa and Carranza, have asked Carranza to lead their government.

\$41,000 RAISED BY THE SUFFRAGISTS

Washington, Dec. 12.—More than \$41,000 was raised in fifteen minutes at a mass meeting held here today in the Congress building for the Woman Suffrage convention, which is to convene in connection with the annual convention. The money will be used to finance the work of organizing for a nation-wide campaign to secure the passage of the Federal Woman Suffrage amendment.

The largest individual contribution was that of Mrs. G. H. P. Belmont, who pledged \$10,000 for the New York delegation.

The meeting was called in honor of Miss Frances Johnstone and Mrs. Sara Clara Field, the two sisters of western women voters who moved across the continent with a modest petition to Congress for a suffrage amendment.

Senator Sutherland, of Utah, and Representative Goodell, of Wyoming, and the gathering that the outlook for the passage of the amendment was encouraging.

The Pass of Baltimore was captured by the British on their way to London, Dec. 12. The prize ship, which has before it the case of the American ship Pass of its name, has been sold for \$2,500,000, which has been sold for \$2,500,000, which has been sold for \$2,500,000.

The court rejected the indemnity demands of the owners of four Danish sailing ships, one Danish steamer and one Norwegian steamer which had been sunk while carrying wood to England.

WOMEN OPPOSED TO SUFFRAGE ACTIVE

Washington, Dec. 12.—Women delegates representing twenty-three states, territories and possessions were tonight ready for the opening tomorrow of the annual convention of the National Association Opposed to Woman Suffrage. A feature of the opening session will be the reading of a letter by Mrs. Robert Lansing, wife of the secretary of state, former secretary of state, regarding the enfranchisement of women.

The following day they will seek to appear before the republican national committee.

AUSTRIAN WOMEN TO MAKE MUNITIONS

Zurich, Dec. 12 (via London, Dec. 12).—The Austrian military authorities are preparing for a systematic mobilization of a great army of women workers for the munition factories, according to the Zurich press, which have been to the front work is proceeding in a slow and unsatisfactory manner.

It is expected that the employment of women will release still more men for the front and it is declared that every capable fighting man is now required there. It also will enable the factories to supply material to Austria's allies. Even mothers, having the care of households, are being called upon to work in the factories.

The ministry of war has opened a special department to receive applications for this work.

Tank Transport Torpedoed

London, Dec. 12 (G.A.).—A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph company from Athens says that a Greek transport carrying tanks and other military supplies was torpedoed in the Aegean sea by a submarine.

VON RINTELEN'S ACTS DISAVOWED BY BERNSTORFF

Washington, Dec. 12.—Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, announced today that he had been authorized by his government "to disavow" Count Franz von Rintelen and declared that he had no intention of committing any acts which were in violation of the laws of the United States.

The ambassador will convey this to the state department for its information. When in America, it was said at the embassy, Rintelen acted solely in the capacity of a purchasing agent for private interests.

Rintelen, a German agent, now a prisoner in the Tower of London, has been charged with coming to this country armed with a large collection of funds to be used in revolution in Mexico and in the financing of the revolution known as "Liberation National Peace Council."

FIRST WEEK OF CONGRESS SHOWS ORGANIZATION OF BOTH HOUSES

Democrats Abandon Plan to Re-enact Emergency War Tax, With Amendments, Before the Holidays.

ONE LIVELY DEBATE OCCURS IN SENATE

Progressives Abandon Idea of Fighting for Place for Kenyon on Foreign Relations Committee.

Washington, Dec. 12.—The first week of the sixty-fourth congress brought practically harmonious organization in both houses and revealed a determination on the part of administrative leaders to attempt no serious legislative business until the holiday recess is over.

President Wilson's address Tuesday with its suggestions for national preparedness, denunciation of internal conspiracies against neutrality of the government and warning of the necessity for increased revenues, stood out as the most important event of the week.

Some Delays Ensnared.—Owing to the difficulty of reorganizing the house committees because of the greatly increased minority, congress could not get down to reorganizing committees until Tuesday, and little can be done before Saturday, when congress plans to adjourn until January 5, for the Christmas holidays.

Early in the week a fight that might have embarrassed holiday recess plans seemed imminent when it was proposed that an effort be made to review the emergency war tax law with amendments before adjournment.

Haste to Change Plan.—Immediately it was disclosed that the fight would be postponed and administrative leaders were confronted with the question that the war tax law would have to wait until January 5 and a long period would follow in which an emergency revenue could be collected.

It was then agreed by house leaders that a bill resolution extending the emergency war tax law with amendments be introduced at the beginning of the new year. Senate republican leaders have agreed to offer no opposition to such a proposal.

One Lively Debate.

President Wilson's vigorous reference in his address to troubles within the borders of the United States, stimulated because of the European war by citizens of foreign birth, seemed to give the senate one interesting day of debate during the past week. Senator Hoke Smith, of Georgia, introduced a resolution calling upon the foreign relations committee to investigate, with a view to recommending action on the British blockade against neutral commerce.

The Georgia senator made a stirring plea for his resolution which aroused Senator Lodge, of Massachusetts, to offer an amendment providing for investigation also of internal conspiracies against the government and of the law and facts relating to belligerent destruction of the Lusitania and other passenger ships. This debate was the first in a series of battles over the European war situation and all its attendant influences upon this country that is certain to absorb the attention of congress for many months.

No Fight Over Kenyon.—Republicans of the senate will consider tomorrow over committee designations recommended by the steering committee. It was reported last night that progressive republicans would protest against the defeat of Senator Kenyon, of Iowa, for a place on the foreign relations committee, but this does not seem likely now.

"I do not think there will be any fight about that," said Senator Cummings, of Iowa, one of the progressive republican leaders. "Of course, we are disappointed that Senator Kenyon did not get on the foreign relations committee, but all in all, the progressive republicans are well satisfied with the arrangement."

Senator Kenyon goes to the important commerce committee, Senator Poinsett to interstate commerce, Senators Norris and Gronna on banking and currency, and Senator Works on judiciary. That seems to me to be satisfactory."

THREE CHINESE GIRLS ARRIVE AS STOWAWAYS

Vancouver, B. C., Dec. 12.—Three Chinese girls, believed here to be the first female stowaways ever landed in Canada, are being held in jail here after immigration authorities have investigated the circumstances of their trip across the Pacific on the steamer Robert Dollar from Shanghai. Supervising officers of the immigration department, said they had been concealed in one of the ship's lockers during the voyage, and did not make their appearance until this port was reached.

ISLE OF MAN HAVEN FOR INTERRED SOLDIERS

(Associated Press Correspondence.) Douglas, Isle of Man, Dec. 7.—There are almost 20,000 British military and naval dead and they are being supported by the government at an approximate cost of ten shillings per head weekly. Disbursements with modern sewage systems have been considered, and a hospital has been built in connection with workhouses where soldiers can be turned into industry. In time all the interred soldiers may be brought here. There are almost 1,000 in Alexandria, India in London still. There are no longer any interred at Flanders, near Aldershot.

There are still many thousands of Germans and Austrians who have not been interned and all have a chance of appearing before a tribunal established for the purpose of deciding whether internment is desirable. When interned they can communicate with their home governments through the American embassy which still maintains two men in Germany, former names of Prince Lubomirski in Carlton Hotel, New York, and Colonel U. Lattinfield, of Philadelphia.

The agitation calling for the wholesale internment of enemy aliens, which a part of the London press carried on most vigorously last year, has now died down and there appears to be no general criticism that the home office is not handling the difficult problem fairly and successfully.

Scaphans Raid Italian Coast.

Vienna, Dec. 11 (via Amsterdam to London, Dec. 12).—An Austrian scaphan submarine torpedoed points of military importance at Ancona (on the Adriatic coast of Italy) and returned unharmed in the face of a heavy fire, according to the official statement today.

REPUBLICANS TO CALL NATIONAL CONVENTION

Washington, Dec. 12.—Most of the members of the republican national committee had reached Washington tonight for their meeting Tuesday to decide upon the time and place for holding the 1916 convention of the republican party.

They either swear the convention—Philadelphia, Chicago, St. Louis, San Francisco and Honolulu—and so far as can be learned most of the committee members already have no particular preference. Friends of each of the rival cities have been claiming that they will be held in detail before the committee, but the indications are that the contest really will be between St. Louis and Chicago, with Philadelphia a little less favored.

There are some republicans who do not want to go back to Chicago, the city of what happened in the party there in 1912. Disaffection has been expressed too, over Chicago's stipulation that any part of the \$100,000 it offers expended after the convention be turned back to subscribers instead of going to the campaign committee.

There was a general feeling tonight that the convention would be held shortly after that of the democratic party, either late in June or the first week of July.

RECEIPTS FROM INCOMES MORE THAN IN 1914

Washington, Dec. 12.—The personal income tax was paid during the last fiscal year by 1,571,515 individuals who turned into the government \$4,094,462, more by nearly \$13,000,000 than the total paid by the 257,288 making returns the year before, according to the annual report of the commissioner of internal revenue made public tonight.

The greatest increase shown was in the amounts paid by those subject to the normal tax, a jump from about \$12,728,000 in 1914 to about \$16,559,000 in 1915.

How Tax Is Distributed.

Incomes exceeding \$500,000 paid this year about \$4,277,000 compared with about \$2,477,000 last year. There were \$2,754 individuals subject to the normal tax, 127,445 who reported incomes between \$100,000 and \$500,000 and 1,342 whose returns were made on a basis of incomes of \$500,000 or more.

Under the corporation income tax, 259,445 returns were made, a decrease of 15,467 from the previous year. The report is subject to various conditions including disturbed business conditions incident to the war in Europe and the trouble in Mexico. The corporations paid \$38,588,952, or about \$4,627,000 less than in 1914. The report says examination showed that but few corporations had purposely falsified their returns or sought to evade the tax.

Recommendations are made for changes in the income tax law to broaden its scope and increase the revenue expected under it.

Funds upon the government through the use of artificially colored stock are said to have resulted in the total of \$12,822,419, of which only \$1,811,652 was within the assessed period.

During the year \$751,000 was collected on account of these funds and more is expected.

Total Revenues Collected.

The total revenue collected from all sources by the bureau amounted to about \$15,881,000. The emergency tax law brought in \$25,000,000, the tax on distilled spirits other than those distilled from fruits about \$12,862,000 compared with about \$15,000,000 in 1914, and the tax on fermented liquors increased from about \$67,000,000 in 1914 to about \$75,000,000 this year.

BRITISH LOSE HEAVILY WHILE RETREATING TO GREEK BORDER

Saved From Annihilation by Gallantry of Three Irish Regiments; Lose 1,500 Men and Eight Guns.

FRENCH BEAT OFF BULGARIAN PURSUERS

Germans Are Falling Back in Russia and Strongly Fortifying Positions, as in West Zone.

London, Dec. 12 (10:00 p. m.).—The Anglo-French troops who last week began their retirement from their advanced position in southern Serbia are now approaching, if they have not crossed, the Greek frontier, and the attitude Greece will adopt becomes more and more important.

Dispatches from Athens and news available in London indicate that the matter, which was long to the Greek and allied military authorities at Salonika, is being amicably arranged and that the allies will be allowed to retire to that city without any interference on the part of the Greeks and will be permitted to remain there.

Fear for Railroads.

Questions which are seriously occupying the Greek government have to do with the use of the railways, which are needed for the Greek troops, and the damage that might be done to them, with the object of impeding Bulgarian pursuit, should the Sofia government decide that the British and French are to be followed into Greek territory. The Greek government has good evidence of the effective manner in which the French engineers destroy railways in the work done along the line north of the Greek frontier. So well was this accomplished that the Bulgarians were greatly delayed, having to use roads covered with snow with the result that the French escaped almost unscathed.

British Retreat Difficult.

The British, who have advanced further from the railway to the northeast of Lake Doirah, had a much more difficult feat to accomplish when retirement was decided on and started moving heavily. They have faced a division at Kavala, and, according to an official report issued tonight, their successful withdrawal to a position extending from Lake Doirah to the Vardar valley was largely due to the aid of three British regiments, the Munster Fusiliers, the Dublin Fusiliers and the Connaught Rangers.

The British casualties were estimated at 1,500 while the Bulgarians lost about 800. The British have been placed in position to cover the retirement, and could not be moved.

Next Move Unknown.

What the next move will be is known to the allies' staffs, but it is generally believed that the Anglo-French forces will fall back to Salonika, where reinforcements are arriving, which will be fortified. There are also reports that the allies have launched an offensive at Kavala, ninety miles along the coast from Salonika and near the Bulgarian frontier, but there is no confirmation of this. If it is true, the object doubtless is to secure the railway at Kavala, and Bulgarians from sending troops westward into Greece.

The Anglo-French continue their attacks on the Serbians in the Albanian mountains and on the Montenegrins in their hills, but apparently their advance is much slower than it was in Serbia, the positions being easier to defend.

Germans Fortify in Russia.

Investigations by Petrograd indicate that the Germans are withdrawing their troops to what is known as the flag river line, which, however, at many places is considerably north-east of that river. This withdrawal is due to their inability to secure complete control of the Lida-Rovna railway, which was necessary for the successful holding of the advance positions which they reached after the great drive of last summer. They have evacuated Shumilov, in the west, and Baranovsk and Kolbin, just to the east of Brest-Litovsk, which they are making the center of their new lines. These are being very strongly fortified.

To Create Stagnation.

This suggests that the Germans hope to create a stagnation in the east as they did in the west and that, if they cannot break through, they will make it just as difficult for the Russians to do so.

There has been increased artillery activity on the western front and the arrival of colder weather may overshadow attacks from one side or the other. It is generally believed that the Germans will make the attempt this time, as they have brought up a large amount of artillery.

DESPERATE FIGHTING IN BRITISH FORCE

London, Dec. 13 (1:32 a. m.).—Reuters Telegram company claims to have authentic information that the allies have decided not to withdraw from Salonika.

A dispatch is published here today